

Remarks

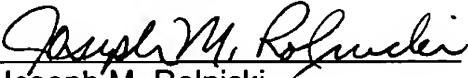
In the Office Action mailed June 14, 2004, a Restriction Requirement was made between method claims 1-14 and method claims 15-18. It is respectfully submitted that the Restriction Requirement is inappropriate, because both groups of claims are directed to the same subject matter as evidenced by the Restriction Requirement. The Restriction Requirement states that both groups of claims 1-14 and 15-18 are drawn to a method of attaching an electric conductor to an electrically conductive terminal. The contention that the invention of the two groups are related as a combination and a sub combination is incorrect.

To advance the examination of the application, the claims have been amended herein. Currently, claim 1 is the only independent claim. Claims 2-18 all depend from claim 1. Dependent claim 19 has been added, and depends from claim 1.

Because there is only one independent claim currently pending in the application, it is requested that claims 1-19 be examined on their merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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